American Women Missionaries and Pioneers Collection

Part 1: Missionaries

The Irene Forsythe Hanson Papers, 1921-1980

Series I

Correspondence
(Incoming and outgoing intermixed)

Folder Description:

Correspondence,
January 15, 1932–October 5, 1932

Box Number:	***Folder Number:***
2	4

Dearest Mummie & Daddy;
Now I just received
your letter - and
I possible to send
you this year -
but all of my love
to each of you
& Ida hope Christ-
will have filled
with joy & love +
trust for you!
Don't worry - we
are safe in Africa -
Lovingly -
Irene

In this time of Christ's coming
with His Eternal love in real
Christmas time. He come again
with His gift of joy to spread.

1

For mine to you, and yours to me
Let's give to those who have no bread
To share the beauty we enjoy
That we, the poor, the lonely find
In Christmas Wish Steve

Imptas - January 15 '32

My Precious Mumsie dear, Happy New Year!!
I'm squatted before the grate fire to visit!
It has been about 3 weeks since I really
visited with you, & I want to get all this
huge pile of your letters answered first,
I have such a pile some nos. I wonder whether
Christmas was really as wet as it threatened to
be.

The Search world service $2.50 gold came in a money
order. The letter came in which I was in courtyard as
Mr. C. took a big pill out to me but the check
wasn't in it. Then when I came home here
it was from the P. A. Sorry all of you have
had such colds & so lastingly.

Mumsie dear, didn't your send Elinor Stork
a copy of the picture for the Roseburg E. F.
They wrote that they are still expecting
one & Elnar wrote & asked again for one.
I'll get one if I can before long but one of
on one of those taken at Lair, please.

Glad for your news of Hazel & Stella. What
some letter writers I have written several
times (Strange to say) but I have not heard
one word from them since the steamer letter
I wonder how Stella is. Helen's letter & Mary's
say Helen is so well & we not know her
do praise God for His answer to our
prayers! How wonderful that she & her mother
can live there together & be so happy!

Yes, thank you, Ray I got a letter from
the Sarge & Joan days. & I signed it.

2] expecting to send out to you to do as you wanted to with it. Will alter your list but yours. I'll send it back & you use your own discretion about it! Thanks! So much for your ever thoughtful help!

Some letters, the Christmas cards & a couple of packages. Mrs C. brought out the knitting. So Mamie dear, yours came. You must not worry if seemingly your letters take long time to pass before letters because they often pile up & get out at once. Yesterday or day before 3 came. There are such a lot to go & a joy - if a mail habit to mail at first it isn't a mail that's all!

Yes, we had a big time at Helen's didn't we? on Thanksgiving! Yes I remembered it this year & also the wonderful time that Warren gave us in N.Y.! Yes, miss dish was with us. (in the Lewisburg sink & hot open a door to get there)

I'm invited over to the family next door for dinner so I must get ready! Next A.M. Am not up yet but sitting up in bed wearing a new maroon flart jacket, padded with camel's hair, the gift from Martha Wylie & as warm as can be. It's been very cold & I've been glad for my medium-weight chiffon garment even in the house. My little fire place does very well. My bedroom is quite cold because I listened to two white-heads in China a long time who thought the elbow drum in this room wouldn't be worth while. Anyway I'm sorry I didn't put it in - It doesn't matter much for I'm not here much to be in it & I dress in ballroom — I surely do enjoy my little home.

This letter has been delayed so I want to hurry it off so crawled out a bit earlier this A.M.

3/1. Sorry, to hear of Mrs. Belton's teeth troubles. Hope she will soon be alright! Glad your aff the medicine Mumsie & we get used to hanging even keeled so the Stairy says "if it isn't done too often" new years dieting! Please give my love to Sokolsky & tell them I just can close my eyes & be back up at the cabin & I do so thank them. Tell Mary & the girls group who gave me the shower Bee etc that I haven't forgotten the letter - tho it isn't written - I'm trying to help them develop patience!! Tsk! Tsk! Tsk! Yes of business etc just makes one sick!

Yes, the onions sound good, No you must not send them. We can get long white onions here too & after a good scalding I eat them.

Mother mine, what a cake! It is lovely. Mrs. Conrad got all of my packages & had them here on my return. The cake had to be opened inc customs but no duty! The icing was dry but cake just delicious. I've given everyone a piece of it Sylvia Reich & Vera Moody who were in from Irvine were here last night & Sylvia said that is the best fruitcake she ever ate. I'm sure that you need not have made the second, that the first one would have been delicious. I do like it the best of any fruitcake I've eaten. The whole cherries in it etc! Thank you my precious Mumsie mine! You sweet love & thoughtfulness ever are with me & I am so grateful to God for this sweet gift, of Yours. The check came in one letter - My, that cake was very! You should not be giving me more. You gave me this dress as Christmas gift don't you remember! Thank you Mumsie dear!

Pay, thank you so much for your gift. I do appreciate it so much, I could spend it for my Christmas dinner - I'll tell you about it

I was at my Chinese home & after meal protest they consented to let me invite them for dinner - not all the family - the one I was living with. So after the Christmas service in a.m. they all sat on the Kang & the cook really did fix us nice things. We ate too much (as usual) Ruth your candy was so good. It came in time to be taken along & enjoyed that day! Shall you! What Kind was it, I couldn't figure out. But the girls loved it too & it was so thoughtful of you dear sister mine to do that in your busy rushing life! May the joy of the Master & His resurrection power working thru you give overflowing joy & help to those you meet each day & each day supply your need for the overflow to give to them! I love you Sister mine & think so gratefully of the wonderful welcome you gave me || you & Ray - & twins! & the dear folks & all.

Am so glad the Your Liming is satisfactory. Does it not rub off at all! That is good. In your spring coat it would be lighter than in the winter coat & quite as warm I expect. Would you like a warm padded Kimona or lined robe. Seem to forget what you had as a warm one.

Now since that check money has come, here they won't have it to print the reports until in case they decide to Suppose I return your check (as their money order I can't return it is a check form) & you then can use that for reports for sending to them in case Ed is willing to print them & that can still let their gift be paying part of the mailing & paper. You do what you

5] think best about it. You'll know what they're interested and whether they can print them for me or not. Do not you use it to help with the expense of the postage if you send them out.

Richard & Winfield still let your mother realize that there was snow on the ground every morning if it made you get up so quickly. How are the Burnises standing the cold? any little ones? I was laughing about the old Hodge & our rides up to the cabin in it to some girls last night!

The turkey & gifts for Burnyce & Nicholas & all your gifts to the family were so nice mumsie dear. Squeeze Sandy Jayanne Thigpen. Thank the missy society for remembering! Ray your day was one of contrasts — [illegible] cradle roll party wedding all in one breath! Nothing stale about that!! Glad for all the news!

Now I've gone through all of the letters & it's 8:30. I must get up & do an errand down street & then I'll write more.

Later P.M. I did my errand & had a good time at the market. (I succumbed to some fancy goods) but for so long I haven't had any cans or tins to put sugar flour etc in & have not done anything at all about it & often need tin cans to take things to the country & I have so got some sets of tins — & a few lacquered tins like the tea cans for use at home. Feel all dressed up!! Then went to Mrs. Thigpens for lunch — which was late but had a nice visit with the future principal of the girl's school. The man who has been has not been satisfactory & there is just no

end of complications. So he is resigning & this woman is to take it over. She is a returned student from Wisconsin & seems to be good. We surely hope that there may be some hope for the school. It surely does need our prayers for it.

The Christmas time at Hwo Li Chuang was very nice. I think my last letter told of it — of our crowded (mobbed) afternoon meeting so much so that it was impossible to have the Christmas play. But in the evening we did have it & so reverently & quietly given that all were much pleased with it! The Christmas dinner we had for our family — Walter Yan would not come & sit down with us. She wanted us to take some to her & we did that. She is pretty well for her 90 years but a bit childish too about some things.

Then after Christmas we had several days of classes studying St John. Will Hein, Isa trying especially to get them to study for themselves & we did notice some progress for which I was glad.

The ground one morning, with hoar-frost about 1" thick on all the trees, sprigs, roofs etc. in a glorious white world — we, packed into a cart for the Hwo Chuang class. This was a representative group from one county & three pastors & elders. & deacons. We thought we'd be sharing the responsibility with them & here we found that they all expected to attend classes themselves so it came to us to do it. All the village was

It was one result of the "Home & Character" Popular education movement of the county. They chose that place for the leaders classes to help them and at the same to let them see what a church group was like & to give the group a chance to witness to the village. Miss Hsu had the class preparing for baptism, Miss Yan, in ancestral hall, for the general Ministers Institute & to help with the leaders' class. To have all the pastors & helpers was no easy task, but the Master helped in a most unusual way — I never knew myself to be so severe in teaching but it was in spite of myself & had it been it would have caused trouble & fear — pointing out sins & faults isn't an easy thing. I used to think of I John as all love but studying it from the "If" & "then" it is most decisive & leaves no middle ground. They wanted the class to go on — we did stay one day longer & we surely felt it a great blessing.

Pastor Lin told of a family we spent Easter well off, whose adopted son had died & they were urging that he take another wife. He told Pastor & some non-Christian friends. It seemed that the master's voice just came clear in my heart that we must go to help them. This is the woman who was paralyzed on one side & by steaming & rubbing she was cured. So they felt that we had a special part in that that we were very close — We (Miss Hsu & I) went one long days (12 hr) ride reached there at 3:30 P.M & had all P.M. & all one with them, talked till about ten o'clock with them frankly

& again such help as came — A foreigner
to go to a school & discuss such a subject
isn't easy at all & if it hadn't been of
the Master & His leading they could have
just put us out in the cold! But I think
He didn't actually promise not to use test
at peace about the visit — at least we
have done all we could to prevent such
a sin. He was much touched that we'd
gone to so much trouble to talk to him.
They were surely right to use fixed price food
& next day he sent his barrow & mule
round to take us in to Nanning with them
for the afternoon. I think that he will
be true. We had thirty-five in all, comfortably
(head lice)
last few days there came a most fierce wind
that has just today died down. Oh! it
was cold most bitter! Got home that
night, cooked a good curry & rice was clean
Then opened the cake & Buddist Brethren
had the remainder, Edith sent a lovely
tin box of chocolates too! my! what a feast
I've had.
This letter has been in stages of writing —
I've been several days & still it isn't off,
I have had callers & guests & been invited
out & posted some & read mail (that
has taken time too) If I don't go out when I
come home they don't like it & think
I need to have a change from country

9] 16 — So lest they try to stop my long trips to country I try to rise up + get in touch with things when I'm home. It has delayed this, tho, now I must go to a meeting I also — no post for next a.m. sitting up in bed — 6', 30 a.m.
the wisted " — The meeting was to arrange for a special man Rev. Way who will be here for 2 months in Mar + Apr. holding services. Please remember. There is schools Mar 1 + 13 then in country. When I went out for it — oh the snow was gorgeous! Had fallen so fast + deep fluffy dry snow! Had such fun snow-balling the Comrades as they came + took in a handful to put on Mr. V an's bald head — that led to my face getting washed eventually but let off some steam too!!! I felt like building a fort as we used to do!

I'll be leaving this next monday the 23 of Jan + be back the 20 of April for a week. So when I can I'll write + as often as I can if only cards.

The American College (University) Club composed of all of the graduates of American Schools has a dinner once a year there. It was held at the governor's mansion — a beautiful building on a high knoll but not now used as a residence but rented for such functions. We missys were conspicuous in that we didn't join in the cocktails before the meal nor the dancing afterward. The dinner was very nice, interspersed (interrupted ?ha) by college songs + yells. Each one had to give his college song or yell. The mayor of the city

spoke by interpreter, American consulate —
I surely hope this day to get a few letters off!
They are like the poor — "always with us".

The continued advancing of the Japanese in the north + the continued impotence of the League of Nations has caused rather a gloom to settle on hearts of some. There seems no way but for China to be a militaristic nation + wait + bide her time but was to all that such a thing must be!
A lad on the train last week came from Peking University (one of old schools) + said one half of students had gone to front + the other half have that Peking was in danger! Students these days need to prepare all the more + not to be cannon fodder! to be leaders

I forgot to tel about the wedding. In this village a family (whose son had been in the school) were having a wedding. Mr. C. went by + was asked in to see the bride's new room. He asked whether they did the old custom of worshiping heaven + earth etc + remarked that they should have a Christian wedding + went off! After the marriage ceremony when some 20 were being examined for baptism they came to ask that they have a Christian wedding. The son who had already gone in the red chair for the bride) knew nothing of it — not to say to wish. We hustled around — the cook had a dyed-bedspread (bright pink) she used for a cover over the table; the cook fixed a few paper flowers on a couple of plants, for the table — (miss Dios) and red blankets covered the bench for the couple to stand in front of the baby organ, (example) played by a blind man added test to the affair.

11) That was the first Christian wedding ever witnessed there + the array of 4 ministers + elders + the choir (all the elders) was quite imposing! The bride must have been puzzled to know what was on! But she didn't run away as one story of one bride goes — The fourth day they did not go to worship the ancestors grave + offer! This is a real change, for the whole family to be so willing + to do away with all from the very start considering what they'd known + the teaching they had is surely great! Two families who had for 12 years been bitter + unfriendly made up + another who for some years had no relationship at all made peace! This is only the power of the gospel to accomplish such a thing! They were very cautious + baptized but three in that village. the class took up a collection to help them rent a place to worship. It was surely a joy to be there.

We see that Pearl Buck has been talking criticizing missionaries + methods etc. — + is in fullest sympathy with the Laymen's Report. Here is surely a good criticism of her books in the "Chinese Christian Student" — Someone sent the Literary Digest report of her Hotel Astor speech to Mrs. Mateer, I'm sure, glad the Board is taking its strong position against the Theological side of the Laymen's Report; May God overrule it somehow to more increased effort to bring His Kingdom ~~in~~ to China.

Well, Mumsie dear, keep warm + happy + not to full — How you gotten pretty thin?

Pay your dues. I've added your name to the illustrious on the proxy slip!!

I'll get
the off
load
from

Home
Sat. P.M.
May 4. 32

Dearest Mumsie:

A note today to be sure
you'd not left without
a letter honey. I've been re-
gretting so my long delay!
Your letter enclosing Earl's
came this a.m. as well as
one from him too telling
that he will be here between
June 12 + July 12. Not sure
when but a few days within
that time. It was a good
letter + I was glad to get it.
He was here a day last August
+ I was in but he'd forgotten
the address + consulate was
closed so he seemed not
to be able to find me.

3] me "fool" as it were — for I first can't understand how I can let it slide but I do you see.

Matter how true it is in life — what we may laughingly criticize in others comes back to us. We've called you the "jack rat" for moving the garden & here Ruth & I have been just that. We'd planted in one place & now mind moved; the garden grew in proportions & we had fence moved widening the yard so the beans we were going to use to cover up the fence are mowed about ⅔ of way in the lawn

4] Sorry. Well, what do I want you to send to me, I don't any requests. Likely you'll not get this in time to get anything to him anyway. Funny — but I can't think of anything. He says I can send something to you. I wish I knew what you'd like. I will most likely be home during that time anyway I'll write me from Manila & girl definite dates then so I'll plan to be home.

Sorry cousin Ella had a bad fall; surely hope she is well now. It has kept you busy. Don't worry dear about the delay in letters. Yours delay gives

4) Would have them when they come up! Moved (sisters) Spirea & forsythia plants too. We have what we call a depression fence — not cement walls like the rest but slabs — Mr. Abbott said, "Is it a depression fence because you can't get over it?"

Anyway we have a very decent gate - copied from Better Homes & garden & will make a little summer house using old trees cut down in the corner of yard. — See I'm still making over, Our garden will be nice when we get it done; I'll tell you more of it later —

it will have bark for shingles

5] Monday — didn't get your letter mailed so I'll do it now.

The garden has to wait for it is raining — we're sorry our grass isn't in but it will come later. Used laugh at us — Weid not build our gate but vaguely knew weid need something on each side. Was early one a.m. before breakfast a man came with two (as tall as) 4 yr-old peach trees in full bloom imagine carrying in a basket — before breakfast was over weid planted them on each side of where the gate would be & we were so thrilled - Next a.m. before we up here he was again with at least 4 yr (at least) peach as tall as I (plus half again) in full bloom; We were aghast! & how did carried in over 12 miles 2 apple trees & 3 pear trees & another peach! Imagine doing your landscape planning by dragging tall blooming

7. See wire on a hill & usual rocks galore so the summer house — an umbrella type with our old tree as a center pole with table built underneath. pave the upper square with stone since it is already too stony to plant, our boards are cheap slabs & have with bark roof — so rustic, you see,

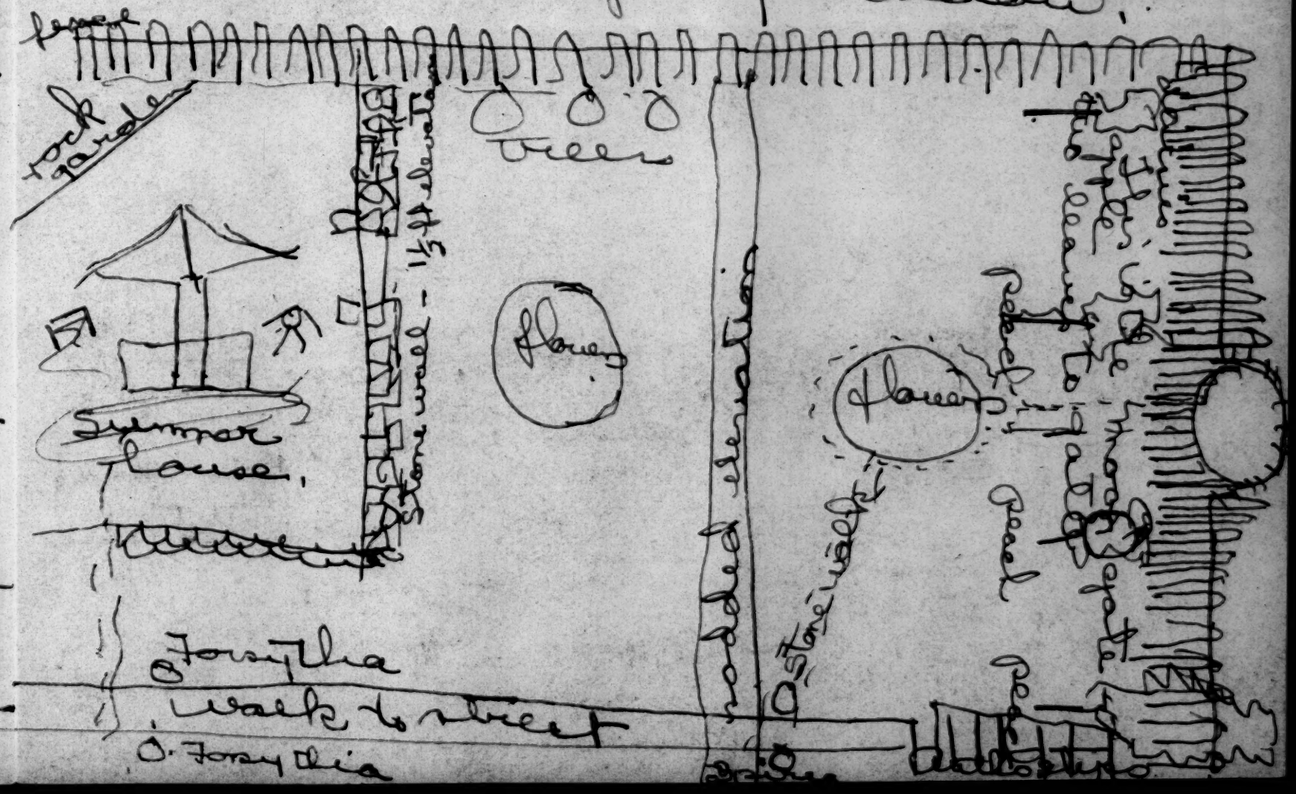
Emmett wrote he was sending roses to get here early spring I don't know whether they've not been sent or strayed for we've not seen anything of them yet. We've surely had fun out in the garden there's just something in the dirt eh? The feel of it is just wonderful — I've never felt it before like this.

6) trees around from spot to spot to try it out!

Well we bought all seven trees — guaranteed to live — we kept part of the pay till spring for 3 mexican. We've watched all & one apple may die but even the big peach that all predicted would die is growing. Even the man wasn't too sure — he promised to plant another if it died!

So in two days we have a small orchard all planted.

Here's the picture of our garden as I see it out of my window.



8/ this cook seems fine so far. He's a jack of all trades & is so handy has repainted the kitchen, laid the stone wall, can make his own clothes, & is clever about the work. — & willing, never gets a cross look on his face, & is so strong will had to eat upstairs & it seems never to tire him. Best of all he's living his Christianity in the kitchen & is fine. Keep on praying for him. I think we can have peace for a while anyway. (his good in country too. Am not sorry at all for the change.

So glad you're the new church addition. Good to have no debts. Hope they'll make it up to Ray & Eula as well as they can. I am afraid they've had a tight time of it.

Matter you've not told me how your finances

9/ are with your keeping a "home" etc. How are you doing it? How much is the rent etc etc? Be sure to let me know, I'm trying to save for you each month & when you need it or it will mean most to you I want you to have it.

It is strange to have no desires for anything isn't it. Things here are quite cheap & we can get most anything If you send it means buying & spending money. You use it for yourself, Really, I've all I need, & as I say by time you get this Earl will have already gone. But I wish I knew what you want;

11] cocoa. He's fixing rubbard this P.M.

Martha has written for summer plans. I expect I'll go to the Huk with her,

Mrs. Van Leuven is home from hospital after 10 weeks & has a long siege ahead still I fear. She's pretty patient but it gets her discouraged too, sometimes It is a question how much an invalid shall be for some months. Only God could bring good out of such suffering as she's had. Her husband is softened & changed much

10] Yesterday Mrs Hue called on plane telling us to wait for her & not get dinner. Here she came with a basket of sweet bean & pea rolls [she centers fried with tough wrapped around it & steamed & delicious fish. Mr Potter had them made for us - It was surely sweet of her - Then we ate & I had cook go for two catties of bananas to put in her basket for her mother. We had no end of nice large shrimps, & lobsters & sea things. Just now they are filled with eggs & very good, & cheap.

I've not yet done anything about teaching the cook foreign food - except

& it is brought all of us closer together in a new bond. Only God I say could take the suffering that Satan has brought into the world & make it praise him Natural man's first reaction is to want it removed. & seek just spring up in country. Talks were to give $1.50 & cloth & diet some days & all diseases would be cured Talks flocked & paid the money

I have not answered all your letters but so wish Hall of Yang Chia Sian later- Much love to all for this time. God Keep & bless. Ray what about the new board? Love, Irene

Teaneck Presbyterian Church

CHURCH STREET AND TEANECK ROAD

TEANECK, N. J.

July 12, 1932

My dear Miss Forsythe

Permit me to acknowledge on behalf of the church the Chinese character silk testimonial which you have intrusted to our care. It has awakened great admiration on the part of those who have beem given a preview of it prior to encasing when it will serve in our church school room as a reminder of our link with the land across the sea and the great interest im the undertaking which was stimulated by your vivacious presentation.

Now as you sail again to partake im the active work evangelistic and educational may the prayers of our people grant you sustaining strength and continued health for the effective pursuance im your chosem field of those aims and ends for which you are so well fitted and evidently consecrated.

Know that the impression you created and the interest awakened in this field of the East Coast im the metropolitan area of New York was a lasting one and one which we expect shall be increasingly fruitful to the work of the foreign board in the years of growth that lie ahead.

Our well wishes follow you on your journey and hope that the relaxation of the voyageur may afford you a well deserved relief from mental and nervous activity so that you arrive at the field refreshed and with no regret for the extra mile you put in , by dropping studies to give us the benefit of your vibrant personality and radiant enthusiasm visualizing the work to our people.

Sincerely Reginald Rowland

Tsi Yang Road
Tsingtao, August 31, 3[illegible]

I cannot Matter Mind! —

Well, here I am - really here & it seems time has again come together as it did when I got home and I wondered whether I had been away. Now I wonder whether I really have been away. Yes I have had a wonderful year with you loved ones & I am indeed grateful for it. It was just the sweet grace of the master that we had the year together, mumsie precious, & we will long have the sweet memory of it.

I wrote just before we landed at Shanghai. From there I will account for myself. We wakened early with it raining & from the porthole could see the great junks with great masts & big eyes in front living the river. We got off in pouring rain to a small boat & went to the customs jetty. There was no trouble with customs or duty. Ray - the middle sized trunk that we had to stand on to shut was the one he picked to have opened - he just looked at a few things & that was all — but you can imagine

2] the fun getting it closed again! The men from the missionary Home + the customs man + I all had to stand on it!! I surely hoped that would be the last time till we unpacked it for sure, We went to the Missionary Home in the rain - whew! an "all wet" reception. Margaret W. + Betty Wright had friends to stay with so Helen + I had a room together. We shopped together + had a good time. She has been in Shanghai so much that she knows the best places. The first thing we did was to look up boats for leaving. I did not wish to come up on a Japanese boat but it was either on it or wait till Saturday to leave there on a British boat. It was so tat + enervating + all advised coming on on it so left Thursday on the Japanese boat.

We did not have much time there + I lacked energy but did get the essentials finished up. I had dinner one day with Mrs Frame of the China Council, that after friend in C.I.M. Came one evening + had supper with us. I did not see Mrs. Hsu

3] ~~her~~ ~~telephone~~ was out of order so I left the package for her ~~to~~ call for it. Went to Tetti rug Co. for Bernyce's rug information & found a sale on the rugs in ~~stock~~. Flew was on just the color of the background of my tapestry with flowers the same color just right for in front of the fireplace. I got it for less than $8 american money. Will keep it till old & if some of you want it then it can go more cheaply. I'm sending Bernyce pictures of rug designs & prices of simport etc. Eula you said once something about rugs & Bessie too better keep this information.

The trip up was not bad at all. The Japanese-foreign food on the boat was bad but we managed the sea was rough but not at all dangerous. The cabin mate was a Russian who was so frightened she'd go to the window & say "Mein Gott! mein Gott!! we are going down!!" a Russian naval engineer, a white Russian now unable to live in Russia for

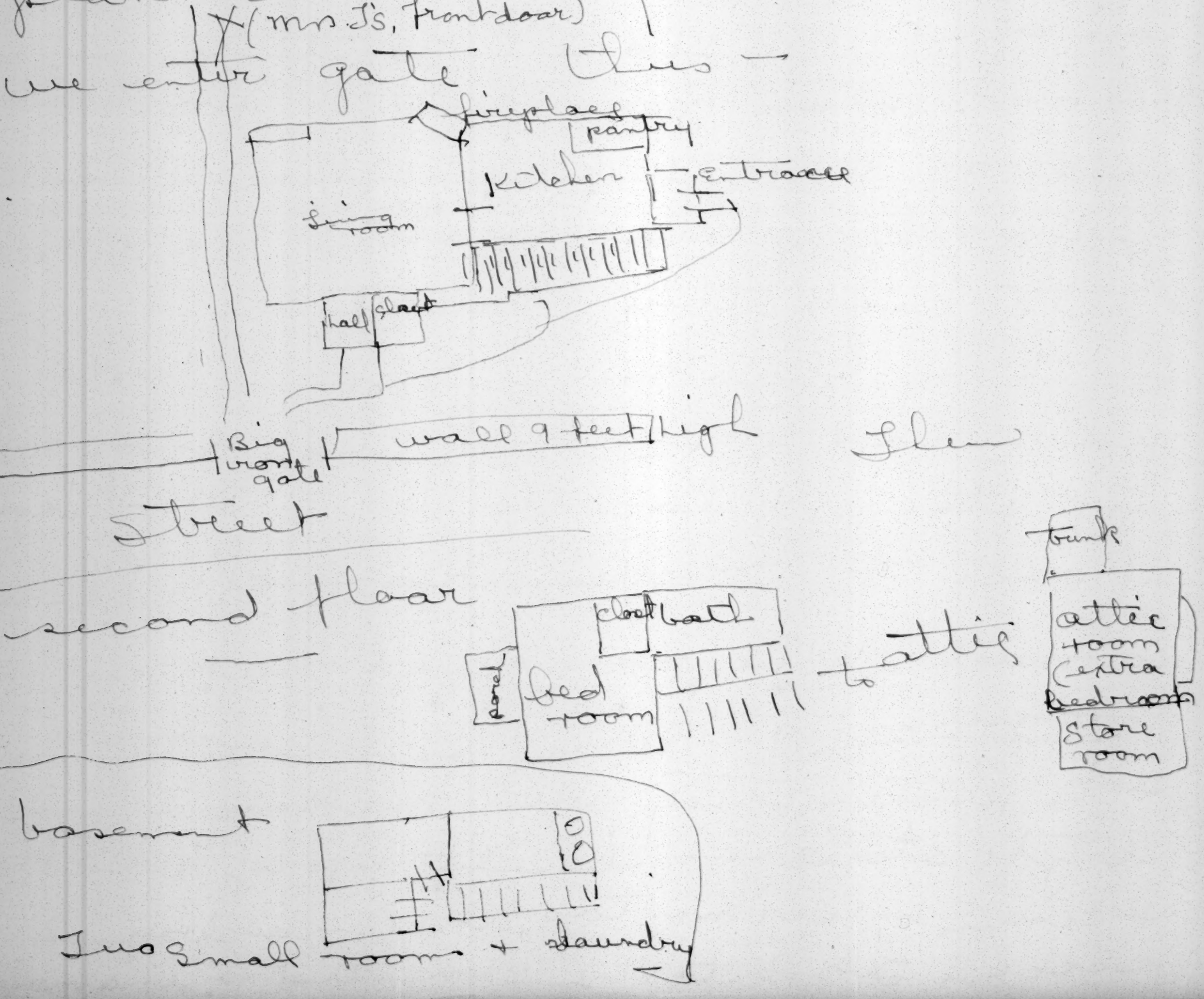
4) ten years, a very intilligent, cultured man, tried to explain why we talked about the waves + to calm her fears a bit. She was less nervous after that! She slept some. I guess. I didn't wait awake to see. I slept all the time up!

We had to have cholera inspection in Singtao harbor, Specimens were taken of all passengers + crew. A doctor came on board, got the specimens + we waited until he'd examined them When he'd finished he put up a flag + on we came. We waited 2 hrs. Today's paper said on its return trip the same boat waited 8 hours because a chinese deck passenger died + they didn't know the cause. At the wharf I was so excited — to be getting back, I first recognized Mrs Hus. + her old mother (she is quite weak + doesn't get out much — here she came all the way to meet me) the coach, + Mrs Hu's coach Mrs Tan's two brothers, they had a letter from her — She was glad up at home by fall harvest + very muddy roads — I expect her soon to. Van Heusen + Mrs Mr. + Mrs. Conradt were there in the

5] car of the former family. Well, just to have all at once to tend to baggage & talk in Chinese - to say all that I wanted to - to each one in Chinese & English at once - was quite exciting.

We drove on up past the new house & I saw my new home — it was quite a moment! The rooms are small but very nicely planned and very convenient.

we enter gate thus —



6) That may give a bit of an idea of the plan of the house. I had not expected the attic to be a room at all & it is all sealed & a nice extra room with storerooms off it. The big 7 foot window is really almost all of the front of room glass - lovely! The living room fireplace is quite as can be. It is built in a corner & the wall, so the top of it is V shape - so there is a perfect place there for the rose blue bowl. It is just lovely there. Roy - not a thing was broken the glass plate came thru beautifully & not anything broken! Mrs. C. had already had all I had here moved up stairs & locked in - so I began at once to move around. There is much to be done yet but we're progressing. Now as I write in the kitchen they are making a china style stove — built up of brick & cement, iron top, oven & drying place. It is to be enamled

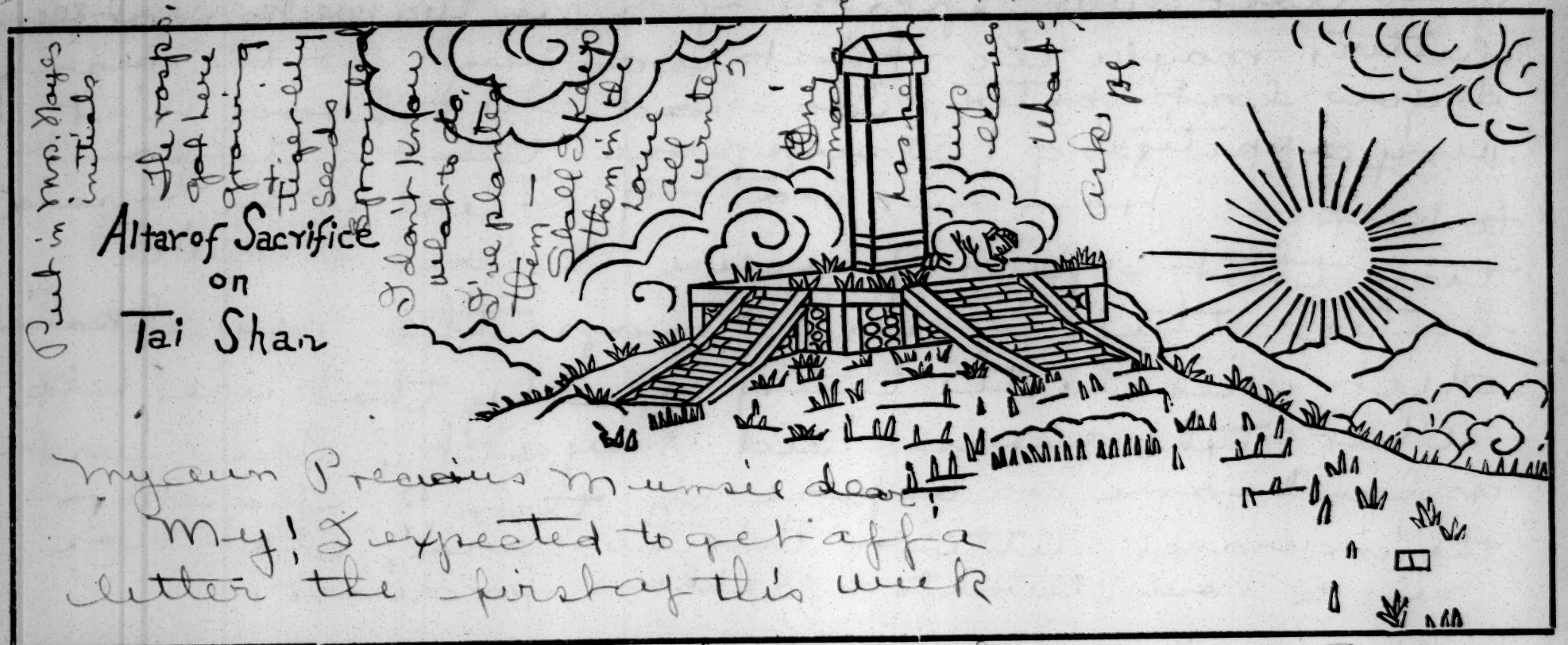
7] white on the outside. It will have coils for hot water. The stove, the plumbing for hot water to bath + wash trays, a hot water tank, drums off the stovepipe in two rooms for heat all for 200 Mex or about $50 gold. Not so bad is it! Anyway it is cheaper to have it all done at once! I am so happy about it. The quicker I can get it all done the better. I so it will be the most extra I am so eager to go to the country, The contractor came + we decided on color of walls. That will be on soon. Today workmen came to put up bathroom things, for towels, tooth paste etc, also to put up curtain rods. See wherever there is weight because walls are of brick they pound in a piece of wood then screw on the rods. Mother, I took out your rods

8) today & do you know there are
just enough!! & all just right!!
It surely did save much trotting
& hunting just to be able to pull
them out & get them put up!
They will be just right & I'll
appreciate them so much!
So far I haven't gotten a man here
to see about the davenport. It
is so much easier to get workmen
here than at home, they just can
do so many things, Home ready
is ready made, here they have to be
made. Tell mrs. Hugel, if you have
opportunity to, that I'm using
her rug beside my bed! My boxes
haven't come yet from the Board but
they were sent July 21. so ought to be
here soon!
One morning miss Ida came &
we visited with no idea of time at
all till mrs. C. sent for me for
lunch. She is so nice. I was so glad
to see her again. I haven't given

9] their gifts yet. want to wait for miss Tan to come. I watered the roots so that they sprouted + the tiger lily seeds also- I had no question anywhere about them + no one asked for inspection certificates I'll glad tho not to have diseases ones. I have a pile of letts to write + as I have to be here to watch + direct the houseboy I have a little time to write. It is so nice to get back to getting unpacked + to get put in place. I am still having my meals at Coomaas' + sleep here have for two nights now. Saturday eve. Timbalist, gave a concert here. We went (Mrs. C. + I) + I wore my new Chinese material gown I felt very grand in it + ha! He was on my boat coming to Inigtao (first class tho so I didn't know it) but others saw him being met by Japanese + presented with flowers + saw movie pictures taken of him. The music was great - we Sat very close - That was meant I'd been to a celebrity! but too, altho I had a marvelous chance to observe his technique it make it seem too mechanical — 3 numbers each did

10/ thrill me! I wanted to tell you about the curtains. I got a ball of 40 yds. of raw silk for 2/ mex - about $5 enuf for curtains & then much left over. Helen said she used it for bloomers ruffles & everything. I thought that very reasonable! It is natural - sort of tan color & will be just fine to color - one can any color & it is most washable. If you want some it is 27 in wide, some full width on each side of the window will be fine.

Sept 1 This morning your letter & the enclosed ones came. Is that Presbyterial check of $20.00 from them - to me to give as a special gift for those who sent the banner & the ten personal? All I have ever heard is a special gift to the presbytery here but the letter said a gift to you! I think the it is the special gift for the presbytery. Ah! I'm so glad to hear & to know all are well - mind the earthquake & had no trouble! I'll just this letter on now. The Store is progressing & so is the hour in general! Much much love dearest ones I love you so & miss you heaps but know He wants me there so am content, — May He keep you well, Love


Put in Mrs. Hays initials
Altar of Sacrifice on Tai Shan
I'll ask Mrs. Hays to get me a picture of it
I'll have a picture of it
Tiger lily seeds
I don't know what to do
I'll plant them
Shall I keep them in love and write?
One more
has he
Jump
What?
Arch

Isi Yang Road
Tsingtao, Shantung,
Sept 17, 1932.

My own Precious Mumsie dear!

My! I expected to get a letter the first day this week & here it is Saturday. Well I will get off today if too many guests do not come or all the weeks' interruptions continue!

I have had some letters from you! mud to my joy! I'll answer them first. That letter from Mrs. Herod said to me as I wished so doubtless it is the gift they had spoken of. I'll give it to the Presbytery Nov. 16. You need not ask her. I was afraid something that or last letter might make you!

It has been so nice to hear from you, Mumsie dear, I miss you very much, & living with you for this year makes it seem all the worse. Only we must think of mis fish & what we were privileged to enjoy that she wasn't. It was a great blessing that we were given the year together! I am so glad to have that memory!

I am glad indeed to get back, & get settled. I'll be happier when I can get out to the country tho than living here - even in the new house! Tell Mrs. Shephard I think of that chicken often! & Belden's all. Please give my regards to all.

My! wasn't a pound a day too fast to lose flesh!

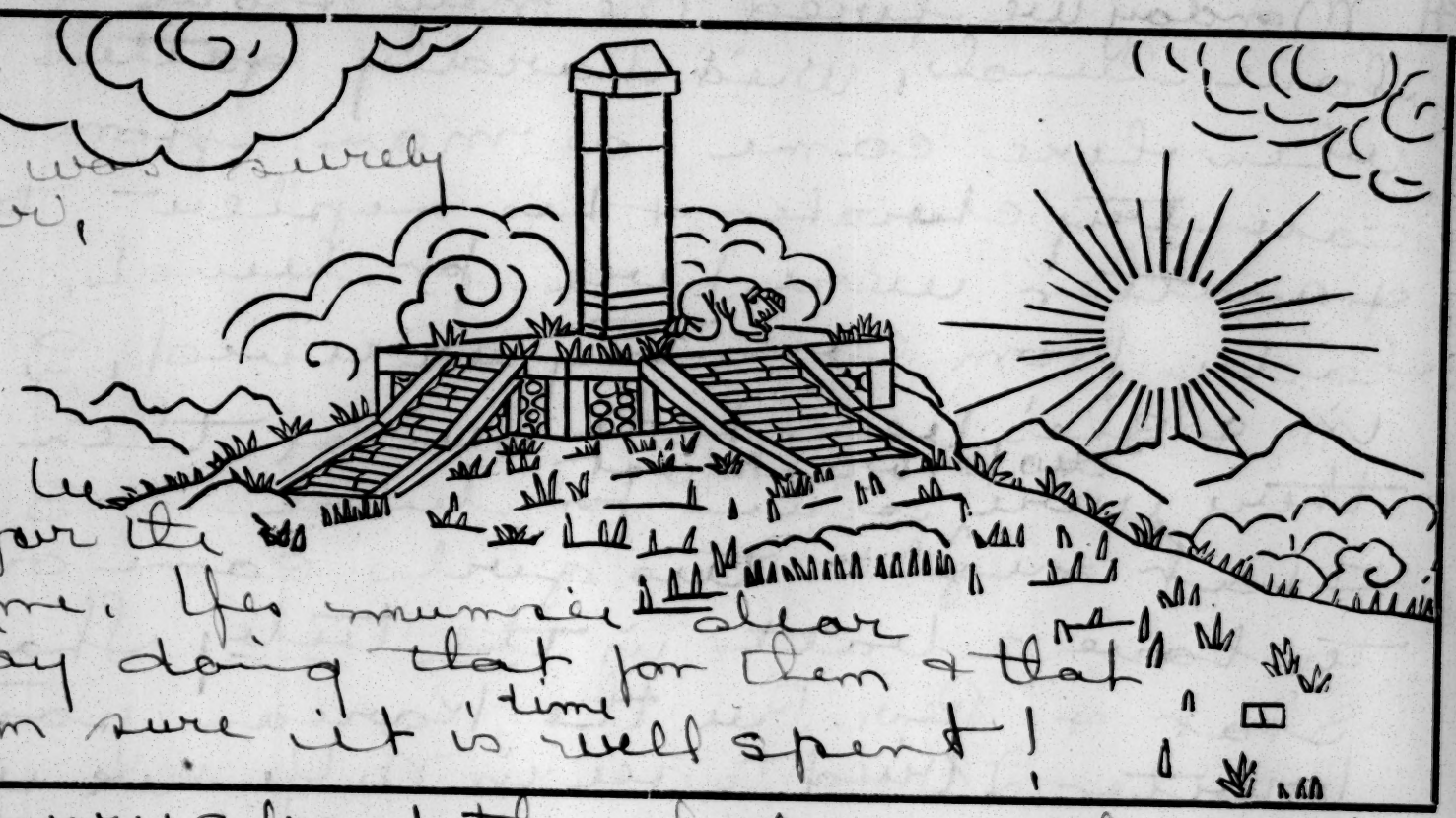
2/ your last letter speaks of it in two weeks. That seems
better; maybe the first was just at the begin
& you lost faster. Too bad diet food isn't
very appetizing! I suppose that is the point
to keep one from over eating. Here is the consola-
tion that your pressure is down & you'll
better that is fine! & hope the new alkaline
diet will be the thing really that will help.
What style glasses did Ray get? Is he just
as handsome as before in them? Thanks for
the inward letter & Edith's card. That was
nice to have Stuarts & Belders for dinner.

Am glad your gat your rose mended mine
came thru beautifully. Last Tuesday after
noon the three boxes from the Barrad the
dishes, picture rolls, books & things we left.
Whew! Had to pay 58.08 duty on them. If I
had brought them with me there would
have been none at all I am sure, It
made me just sick. They came as mer-
chandise. News again. I'll that my
stuff along with me All was nicely
packed & matting broken but. Ray has
as fine a record as that!! Experience is
costly!

Your last letter is Aug 23, my how quickly it
came, Yes that was the day I was in Shanghai,
So glad to hear of Bud & Bessie's visit, & that
the trade is not really all off. I do so hope
it will go thru, It is a shame that Jane
went for that boat at 2, Tell her I am
so sorry to have missed her — & thank

her for coming. It was surely nice of her.

Altar of Sacrifice on Tai Shan



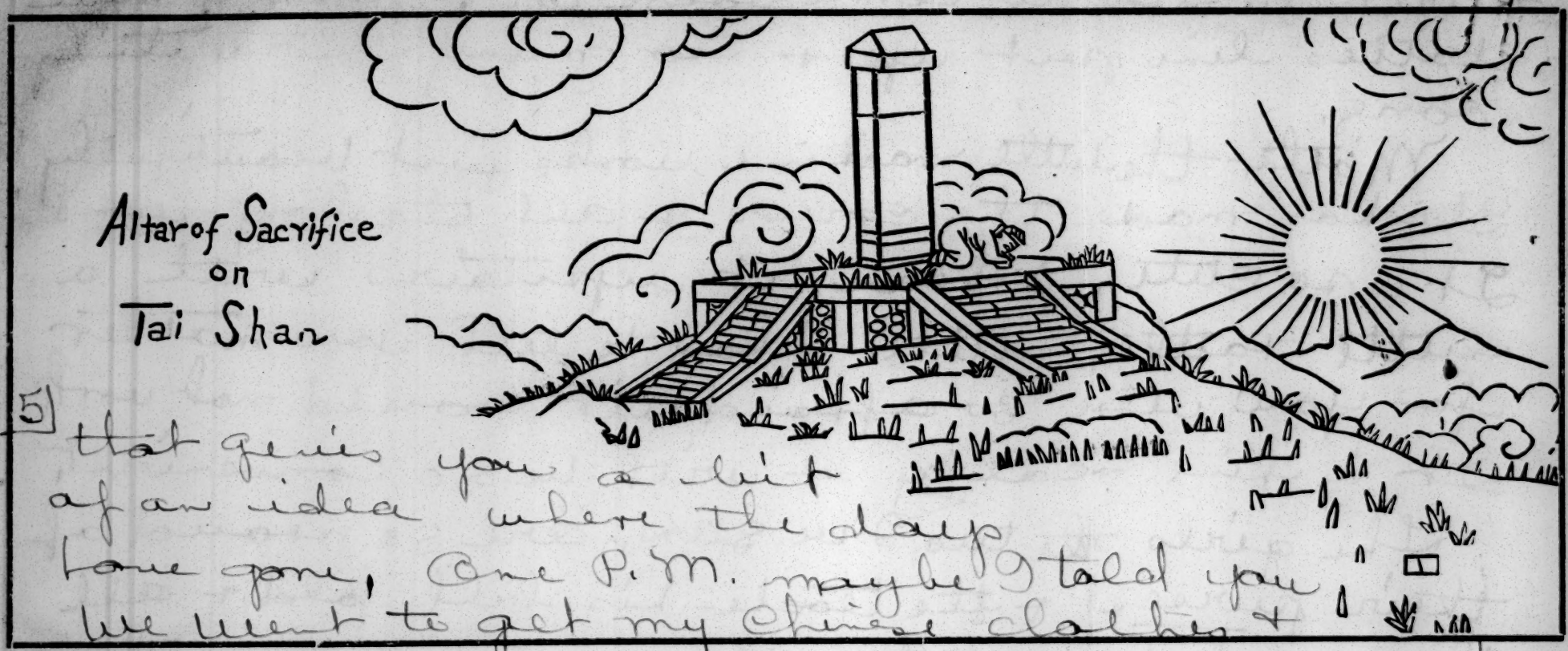
This is a bit to be able to sew for the W.C.T.U. home. Yes mumsie dear you'll enjoy doing that for them & that is fine. I'm sure it is time well spent!

Do not worry about the cholera, I have taken the shots preventative twice, last week once & then again on Tuesday. The first time there was no effect but the second I surely was knocked out, much like the shots of last winter. They first said take three but Lydia says not to since I've had such a severe reaction, Don't worry mumsie dear about that, I'll be careful too!

Well the last of last week — most of all week they were calsomining my rooms & mess it surely was one! Between painters in kitchen, calsomiers & plumbers we were first running over here & I buzzing around in the midst. Saturday Eve. they got the mess cut out to get the living room a bit livable. — Had a day scrubbing after aftern & we got curtains up. — Monday then I stayed in bed to try to rest but had callers & had to get up. Had to prepare for Mon. a.m. chapel service & go to Lydia's for supper so there was little rest.

4 Monday we fired the new stove & planned to have lunch. We'd hardly gotten it started when there came a man from one of the country churches & his nephew to call. They & another were here for lunch. Then a lady from country arrived. I took her in & she's been here ever since. Tuesday there were seven for breakfast, 4 for lunch & 3 for supper. That night two girls came over from school to have a bath in the tub! That with a Stat & Rev. Pu the Korean pastor whose brother I tried to see in N.Y. we went through pictures & made out a plan by which we'd give the post cards — one for the memorizing one Bible verse, The Sunday School paper pictures for 5-15 verses depending on possibility of person & the big flat pictures to those for 30 verses or more a whole roll to a group or school that has done well in memorizing for the church or the school!

Each morning this week I have had the chapel service for the combined Boys & girl's High Schools, It is entirely voluntary & not on school property The attendance has been pretty good & good interest. It has hurried me to prepare for them. Students are so particular, I had to review quite a bit to keep up with myself! It has been good tho for me. One morning Miss Tan substituted for me I was too weary, too much Stat!



5] that gives you a bit
of an idea where the days
have gone, One P.M. maybe I told you
we went to get my Chinese clothes &
the next A.M. the tailor came to measure for
them. That will soon be done. I had to
get Chinese beds for their guests so
for
two days a woman has been here making
cotton padded covers & mattresses for them.

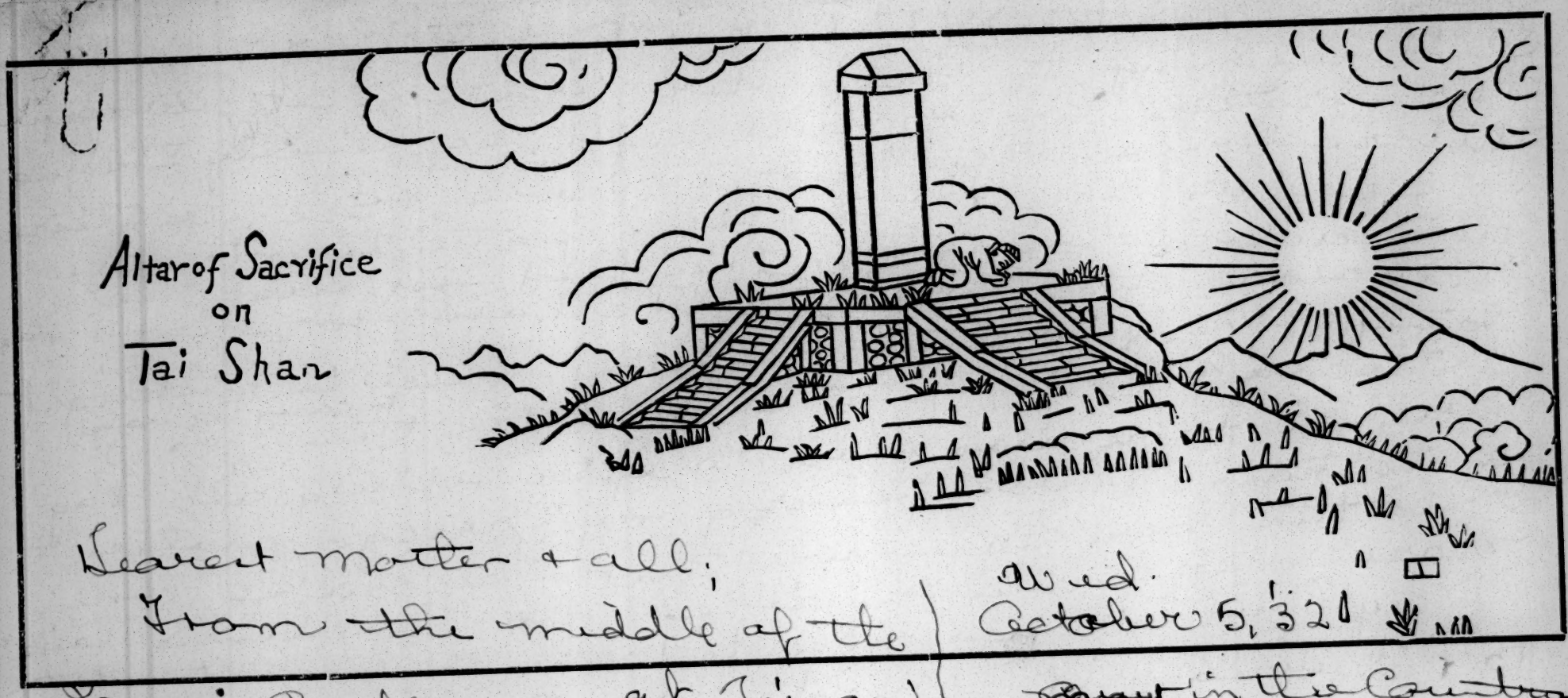
Tues. the davenport came & it is just lovely
my. that cloth is pretty in the room. They
all said I couldn't have bought such cloth
here. The arms are slanting & low with
round pillows on them that can be
take off. When taken off they (the arms) are just even
with the pillows & made a nice bed. They wanted
70 Mex $1.5. to make it. I felt it pretty high
but they've done it beautifully, my with hat
water & a davenport it does feel like a
luxurious home. All I ask is that whoever
enters here may so feel this spirit that they
will want to know Him. Its quite a
lot of work to get an establishment
complete. This isn't but it is convenient &

4. wild he misses to come back too. I had to have clothes line put up + so many extra things done.

Mother the little machine works just beautifully! She has made the covers + all the long seams. It is so cute. I hear it upstairs with a little rattle, rattle. I had to tell you mother for you were so afraid it would not work. It is fine really + will be so convenient.

The girls the two I've seen, are so proud of their purses!! + the teacher his bill fold + all the varied bracelets. They all feel sorry that they can't write to thank you but asked me to be sure to tell you many, many thanks. They love the zippers. Japanese purses are just coming in with zippers. I have felt sorry I didn't get 2 more blue gloria umbrellas my umbrella must be lost. I thought it must be in the boxes from Board but they did not [illegible]. I have one for country + that will do.

I have overdrawn my Shanghai acct! as usual. I laughed Mr. Myers did not say "Please Remit" as before I suppose he knew it was needless to say so. I may have to cash that check matter + then he may want my trunk!! Don't worry — I'm just joking about this! Coak is taking letters down so I'll hurry this off + write again. I have to go to Tsinan for a week's "Stanley Jones" Conference will write from there. Much much love to all + I love you all so! Tell Eula + Ray they'll have to save fees to take me to Palestine!! Love Irene

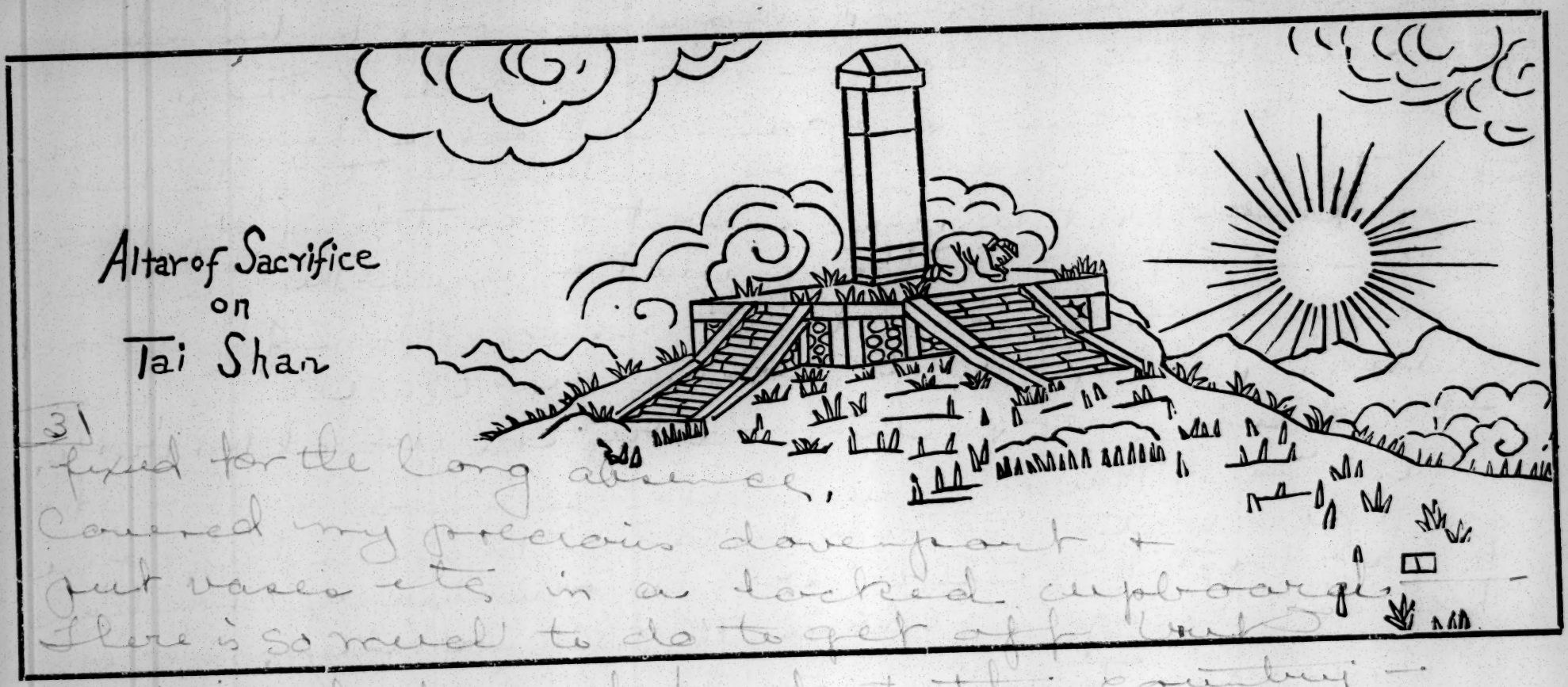


Wed.
October 5, '32

Dearest Mother + all;

From the middle of the Jones' Conference at Tsinan ~~May~~ in the Country. when I write to you I know it had a chance to write to you. The Conference was so good and I surely did enjoy being there. The folks I stayed with were so nice to me, I was over at the Pres. mission Sat afternoon + Eve. Was out to a number of homes - met a lot of our mission folks. The folks I stayed with the Smyly's were surely lovely. I told you about the different ways of doing - but after all not so much. I laughed at myself learning the English way of eating fruit! The English use the fork for meat or anything in left hand + do not change it to the right as we. So I followed them - after a meal or two of getting my hands messy with peaches - to eat it with a knife + fork with fork in left hand !! Ha! I came back on the day train instead of the night one. Had to get up so early + eat breakfast at 6 o'clock. Here Dr. + Mrs. Smyly got up for such an early meal. We talked so much I almost missed the train! Martha Waplis went half way to Tsingtao with me - to Weihsien + so glad

21 for a uninterrupted visit with her.
Ted came up to visit his brother at Saratoga
Dr. Brother has on furlough especially studied
tuberculosis. Treatment at home, & She was there
to see him recein, the first patient into the
tuberculosis hospital. They had had such a
traumas time with their release for several yrs.
So they turned it into a hospital much to his delight.
The cook & his friend were on the train to carry the bags
reached home was glad to after sitting all day
on the train. I was wearing my foreign clothes &
I felt then more than ever that they make an
more conspicuous & wished for my Chines clothes.
My! but it was nice to have a home to come
to. I surely did enjoy it. Mr. Conradt came over
for a visit while Dale supper.
Then till Sat A.M. I was rushing getting off
to the country. The first time in the fall it is
always a lot of extra work to get all
collected & this time was even more so be-
cause of my just getting back. Some baskets
had to be replaced, new clothes gotten etc!!
The cook was especially busy because of
none parts coming from his home & being
involved in a law suit & needing him to help.
It kept both of us busy & writes a
lot of letters I brought along as I had
not been able to get answered.
Now I am sitting cross legged on the
king writing— We are invited out for a
meal & while Mrs Two is helping a lady
read the charter, catechism & a crowd
of children are seeing what they can see
I'll try to write a bit to you. I will
have to learn to concentrate in the midst
of much noise. I see I'm not succeeding
very well.
Sat. A.M. got the home more or less

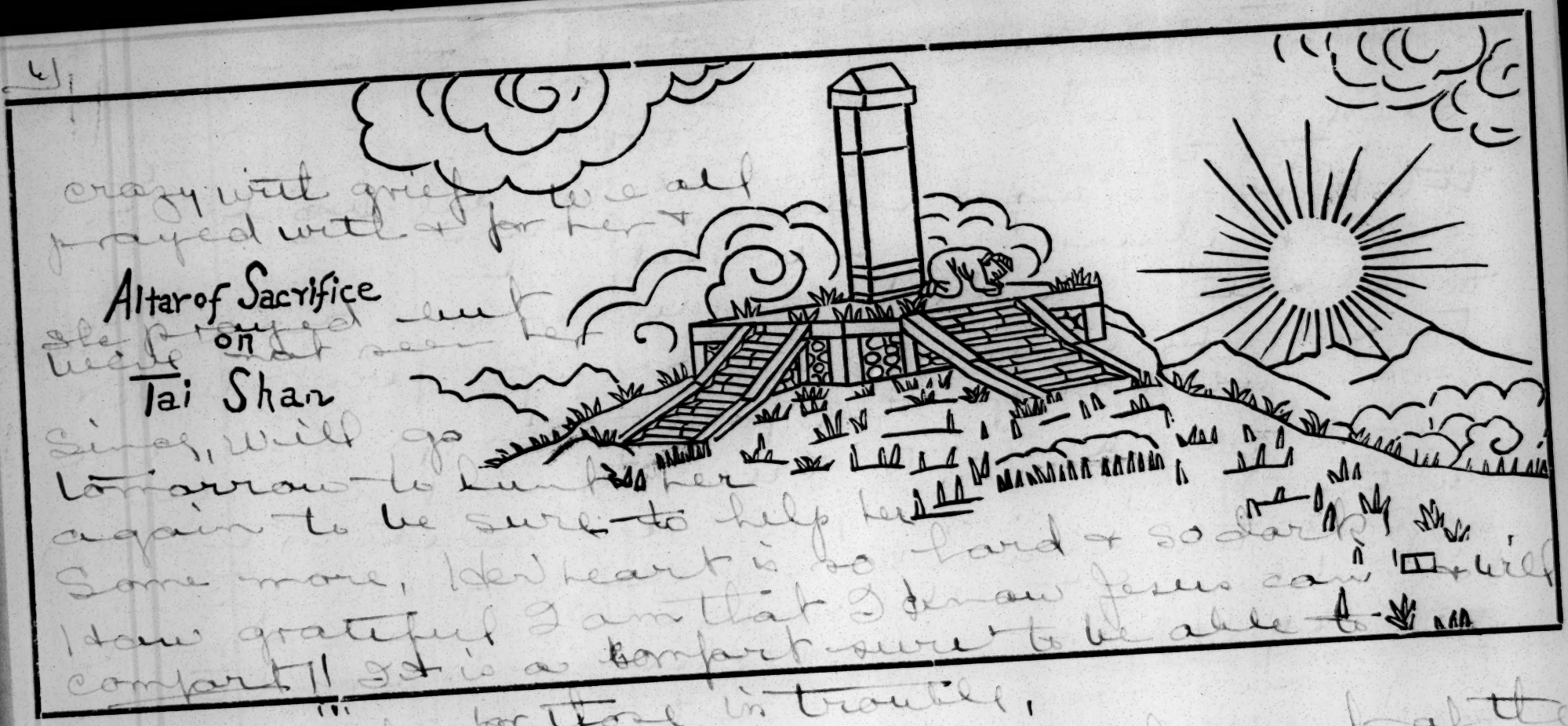


Altar of Sacrifice
on
Tai Shan

fixed for the long absence. Covered my precious davenport + put vases etc in a locked cupboard. There is so much to do to get at [illegible] but so glad to get back to the country. So at 6 a.m. in my Chinese clothes, bundles in the rickshaw + we were off. Sat on the train with some Chinese ladies + had a good time talking to them of Jesus + giving out tracts. It surely is good to be back at "my job". We got off at Tai Tsun. The man from the inn said a man was there to meet me from Paotow. Because of refugees coming from the war zone in Manchuria the luggage didn't get on the train we came on so we had to wait. The man had come the day before to bring Mr. Conradt to the train so had waited over night for me. As soon then as he came I took the things and carried my load + went on the wheelbarrow leaving the coolie to wait for the checked pieces to hire a two wheeled cart. We bumped along pretty well made 32 li (10 miles) in about 4 hours. It surely did seem slow especially after my ride at 180 li per hour in Ray's + Eula's car to Seattle! We stopped to rest at a village + soon a crowd came out. I had to answer all about my age + family + then could give them the gospel message + some tracts. It is an untouched village

4) as far as we know. How long to be able to go to their places - how is a question.
Came to a river + again had a funny time. This time the man was a bit better. He held my feet but he was short + he tried to keep my feet from getting wet + nearly tipped over, his head this so I had a good laugh. They had to carry over the things + the wheelbarrow. Mrs. Jan + I + two were already here + I had supper with them - invited to a ladies home to eat tasty - There are as number of Christians here. The village is large 700 or 800 families. It is a very busy time so the day classes are small or not at all. Bean harvest time + fall wheat planting + peanut harvest. The evening meeting are one group in the little primary school where the girls take + the room has been just crowded. They have been reading them memorizing Bible verses, + we've been using the post cards + S.S pictures to give to those who memorize the verses. At present they had a good time - even the old ladies some memorized seven forty - twenty verses. The girls said they felt - That it was a great help. Here even, non Christians that come memorize. I have about a dozen men at night in a Bible class.

Sun. 9 A.M. we had Church service. The day was weary but the Holy Spirit did help - + helped the old ladies to understand me. In the afternoon after church we had a long talk with an old lady whose son was a Christian but the rest of family weren't. He was taken by bandits one evening + because they went right away after the bandits the son was killed. Since then she's just been sad



crazy with grief. We all prayed with & for her & she prayed with us & we saw her smile. Sing will go tomorrow to hunt her again to be sure to help her. Some more, I don't know how grateful I am that I know Jesus can comfort. It is a comfort sure to be able to know surely for those in trouble.

Monday we went to the south part of the village with the victuals, pictures & tracts to a Mr. Wang. He son has been in a little Christian school & studied going medicine (Chinese & foreign from his old teacher) now he's opened a medicine shop in his home & every night a group of men meet there to study the catechism etc. He can help with the Sun. services & will have some classes in Tsinan & character this winter. It is great that there are some young folks willing to take a little responsibility for their own villages! We had a crowd there in the morning & afternoon to hear.

Yesterday we went to a village across the river where an old Mr. Chang has a little girls school in a big market village. After a morning service for them & the crowd we went to several homes — one to a wealthy home-non Christian where a girl unmarried was in mourning for her mother [the man had 3 wives her mother the third — another family where the family all but the mother believe & she's just as hard — but she seemed to be a bit willing

to listen & we prayed with her too — ||
The morning a number of women came in
said they were so uncomfortable & upset they
wanted to compose themselves so we all knelt on
the floor & a regular revival service was held! Then we went with
to a better family's for dinner & a crowd gathered
there to hear a little more for first time &
sang for perhaps the first time! We came
back for a rest & I studied an hour
with Miss Tam. Now I write in the room
in front the daughter-in-law is feeding the
fire & blowing the bellows - the cook & one
other right - & the left is a better
long low room where the stone mill,
the mule & the cow are, & many in the
courtyard it's nearly dark & I have on
just single garments so the coat of the
evening & the dark are driving me in!
There is a market tomorrow & I'll have to
to send this letter, Please send these
films - prints I mean to Miss Stark. I don't
think the one which makes me too fat is
best but let them see what they want,
The coats & Mrs Tam & two old ladies asked
me to thank "the worthy aunt" Eula & the
grandfather for the gifts! & the cook
too! I have had two letters — So grateful
for your comfort & strength that He
is giving to you sweet mother mine,
I love you all so much & am lonely
for you but for Him I'm glad to be here,
must prepare for tonite - Bye — Lots of
love dearest ones — Irene